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# INFORMATION REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Argentina/Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 5 May 1948

SUBJECT Ustasha and Yugoslav Communist Activities in Argentina

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25X1A

25X1X

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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25X1X

1. It is reported that the many former Ustasha cabinet ministers now in Argentina are laying plans to proclaim openly a Croat Government-in-Exile with Hvalja Beslagic as one of its leaders, in the event of war or of Argentina's breaking relations with Yugoslavia.

25X1A

2. Croats who took part in the demonstration against Yugoslav Minister Franj Pirc on the occasion of his recent visit to Cordoba are said to have been acting under orders from Beslagic. [REDACTED] also considered by Beslagic.

3. Pirc has also recently traveled to Santa Fe Province and visited Communist organizations in Venado Tuerto, El Jardin, and Chovet. In addition to attending a meeting of 700 Communists in Chovet, Pirc is reported to have consulted confidentially with Jure Mateljan, local Communist leader and member of Yugoslavia Libre.

4. In order to track down Croat agents and Ustasha war criminals, the Yugoslav Communists have organized a special service in Santa Fe Province which is headed by Mateljan and Petar Soljan.

25X1X

5. Zolenko Maric is considered by the majority of the Ustashi in Argentina as a Communist infiltrated into their circles. Opinion is divided in the case of Slobodan Franic. The latter arrived in Argentina aboard the SS Sestriere in April 1947, traveling with Ivan Kresic and Rodolfo Zubic (cf. [REDACTED]). When Italy surrendered to the Allies in World War II, Franic offered his services to the Germans, and worked for them under Vladimir Misetic, who is reported to have been a double agent working also for Tito's forces. Consequently Franic was actually serving both forces. The target assigned Franic by Tito's faction was to locate Croatian refugees in Italy and confirm the authenticity of their names. Franic is apparently inactive in Argentina and associates very little with his former countrymen.

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